

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated December 18, 2007, the Examiner has objected to the specification and claims 1, 5, 8, 11, 23, and 45 on the basis of certain explicitly set forth informalities. By this paper, the specification has been amended to correct certain minor informalities by placing the to be inserted paragraphs on the pages as kindly suggested by the Examiner, and the subject claims have been amended in a manner so as to now obviate the Examiner's objections. Further, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3, 5, 7--12, 23-30, and 45-50 under 35 USC 103(a). By this paper, claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 23, and 45 have been amended to more particularly point out that which Applicants regard as their invention, and claims 3, 9, 11, and 46 have been cancelled without prejudice. For the reasons set forth below, Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 23-30, 45, and 47-50, the claims remaining in this application, are respectfully considered patentable over the cited prior art and should now be allowed.

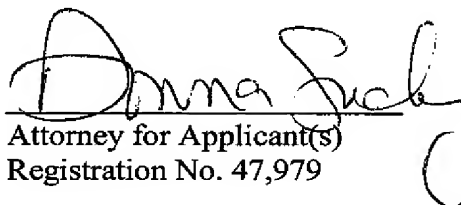
Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, 23, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Desie, et al. (US 6246424 B1) in view of Kaukeinen, et al. (JP 07043978 A); claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Costrop, et al. (US 5848339) in view of Kaukeinen, et al.; claims 23-27 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rushing (US 6671052 B1) in view of Kaukeinen, et al.; and claims 23, 28, 29, 45, and 47-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakazato, et al. (US 6483997 B1) in view of Kaukeinen, et al. Applicants' claimed invention, as previously discussed and fully described in the specification, is directed to multiple magnetic brush toning stations which overlap so as to enable development of a receiver over both an extended area and a same area of a receiver in order to print over an extended width perpendicular to the receiver transport path. Additionally, a control for the magnetic brush toning stations measures toner lay down of the multiple toner stations to balance lay down across a developed image on a receiver. These are the important aspects of Applicants' invention that have not been shown, or in any way taught, by the cited prior art, and provide a significant advance over the cited prior art, or any other prior art known to Applicants. The Desie, et al. reference shows a single toning roller having overlapping areas provided with toner; this in no

way can provide for a wider development zone than the given width of the single toning roller. The remaining cited references to Kaukeinen, et al., Costrop, et al., and Nakazato, et al. only develop images directly in line in the receiver transport path. They provide no teaching that could be used to suggest the combination with Desie, et al. to extend the width of the development zone in the direction perpendicular to the receiver transport path. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' invention as now claimed would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art when the references are taken alone or in any proper combination. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 23-30, 45, and 47-50, as amended, should now be allowed.

Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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